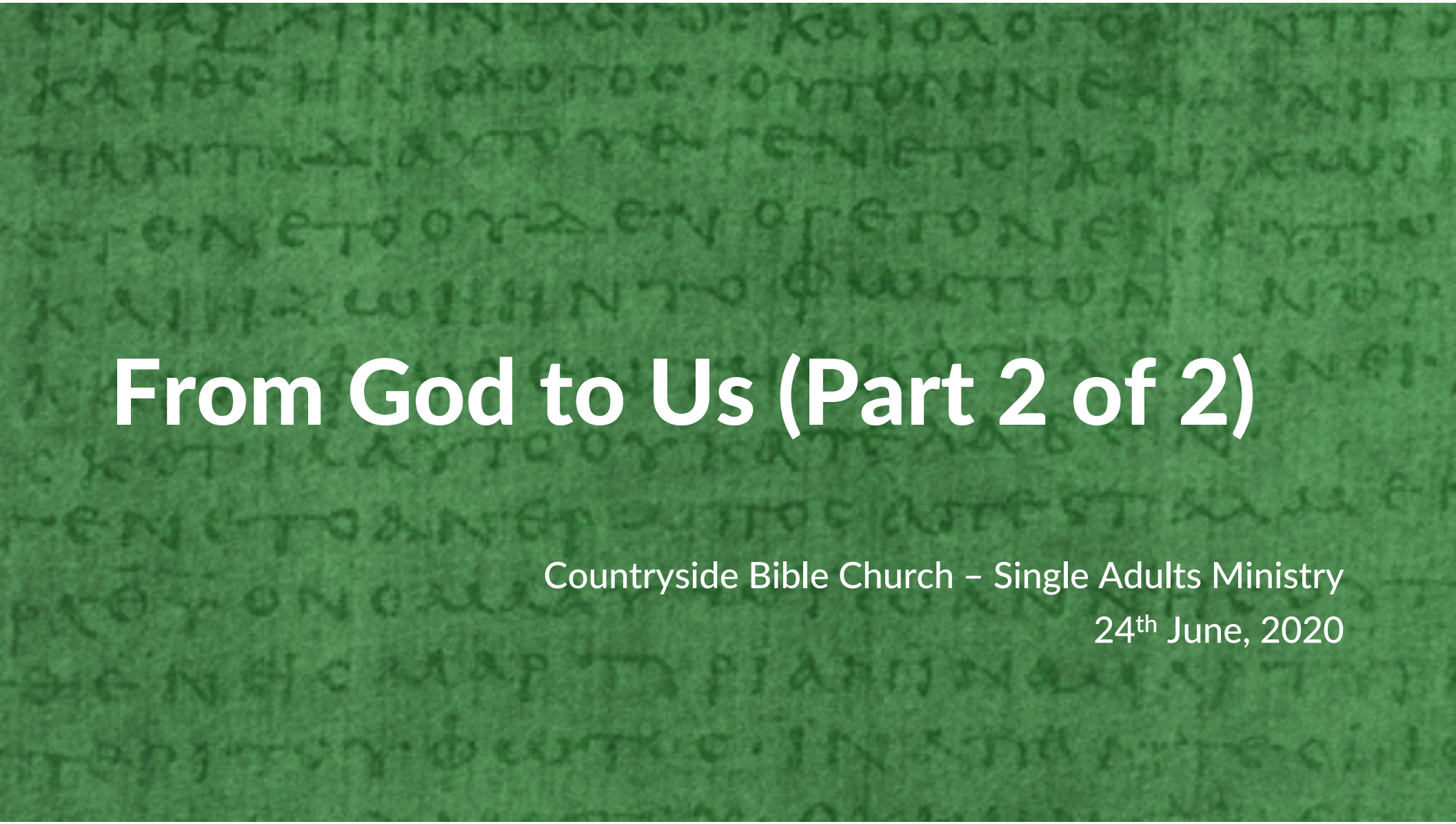
THIS WE BELIEVE

ONE:28

A Study Through the Doctrinal Statement
of Countryside Bible Church



From God to Us (Part 2 of 2)

Countryside Bible Church – Single Adults Ministry

24th June, 2020

From God to US (17th and 24th June)

1. **Revelation** and **Inspiration** of the Bible (Part 1 of 2)
   A. How does God Reveal Himself to Us?
   B. What it Means to be Inspired and Why is it True?
2. Criteria for and Closure of the **Biblical Canon** (Part 2 of 2)
   A. What is the Biblical Criteria for the Canon
   B. Why We Believe the Canon is Closed
   C. How to Study the Bible

Series Goal

"That our God would be magnified, through the study of His Word, His Person, His Creation, His plan of Salvation and His Church"

Criteria for the Biblical Canon

1. Definition of Biblical Canonicity
2. Determination of Biblical Canonicity
3. Defending the Biblical Canon

Criteria for the Biblical Canon

Definition of Biblical Canonicity

1. Biblical Description:
    1. Sacred Writings
        1. Tabernacle (Deut. 31:24-26)
        2. Temple (2 Kings 22:8)
    2. Holy Scripture (2 Tim. 3:15)

Criteria for the Biblical Canon

Definition of Biblical Canonicity

1. Biblical Description:
2. Literal Meaning:

   “Canon means rod, rule or standard”

Criteria for the Biblical Canon

Definition of Biblical Canonicity

1. Biblical Description:
2. Literal Meaning:
3. Formal Definition:

   “The Canon is those writings considered the rule or standard for Christian doctrine and practice (2 Tim. 3:17)

Criteria for the Biblical Canon

1. Definition of Biblical Canonicity
2. **Determination of Biblical Canonicity**
3. Defending the Biblical Canon

Criteria for the Biblical Canon

2. Determination of Biblical Canonicity
    1. Was it written by a Prophet / Apostle of God? - **Apostolicity**
    2. Was he confirmed by the acts of God? - **Authenticity**
    3. Did he tell the truth about God? - **Orthodoxy**
    4. Did it have the power of God? - **Inspiration**
    5. Was it accepted by the people of God? - Catholicity

Criteria for the Biblical Canon

1. Definition of Biblical Canonicity
2. Determination of Biblical Canonicity
3. Defending the Biblical Canon

Criteria for the Biblical Canon - OT

1. God selects and validates Moses to be His mouthpiece
   - Ex. 19 and Num. 12:1-8
2. Moses provides the criteria for future prophets
   1. Deut. 18:21-22
   2. Deut. 13:1-5

Criteria for the Biblical Canon - OT

1. Moses
2. Joshua (Deut. 3:28, 31:23)
3. Samuel (1 Chron. 29:29)
4. 2 Chron. 9:29
5. 2 Chron. 12:15
6. 2 Chron. 13:22
7. 2 Chron. 20:34
8. 2 Chron. 32:32
9. 2 Chron. 33:19
10. The Major / Minor Prophets

Criteria for the Biblical Canon - NT

Jesus our Lord selects, pre- authenticates and authorizes His Apostles

- John 14:26
- Heb. 2:4
- 2 Cor. 12:12
- 2 Pet. 3:2 & Jude 17
- Eph. 2:20 and 3:5

Criteria for the Biblical Canon - NT

Direct apostolic authorship

✓Matthew

✓John, 1-3 John, Revelation

✓Peter (1 & 2)

✓James

✓Paul (Romans – Philemon)

Criteria for the Biblical Canon - NT

Non-Apostolic Authors

- ✓Mark
- ✓Luke
- ✓Acts
- ✓Hebrews
- ✓Jude

- ➢Mark – Peter
- ➢Luke and Acts – Paul
- ➢Jude – James
- ➢Hebrews - Under Paul's influence

Why We Believe the Canon is Closed

- ✓Age of Prophets and Apostles has ended
- ✓Hebrews 1:1-2
- ✓Jude 3
- ✓Deut. 4:2, Prov. 30:5-6 and Rev. 22:18-19

"Preoccupied with mystical encounters and emotional ecstasies, [many] seek ongoing revelation from heaven – meaning that, for them, the Bible alone is simply not enough. [With them], biblical revelation must be supplemented with personal "words from God," supposed impressions from the Holy Spirit, and other subjective religious experiences. That kind of thinking is an outright rejection of the authority and sufficiency of Scripture (2 Tim. 3:16–17). It is a recipe for far-reaching theological disaster."

John MacArthur, Strange Fire, (Nashville, Nelson Books, 2013), 218.

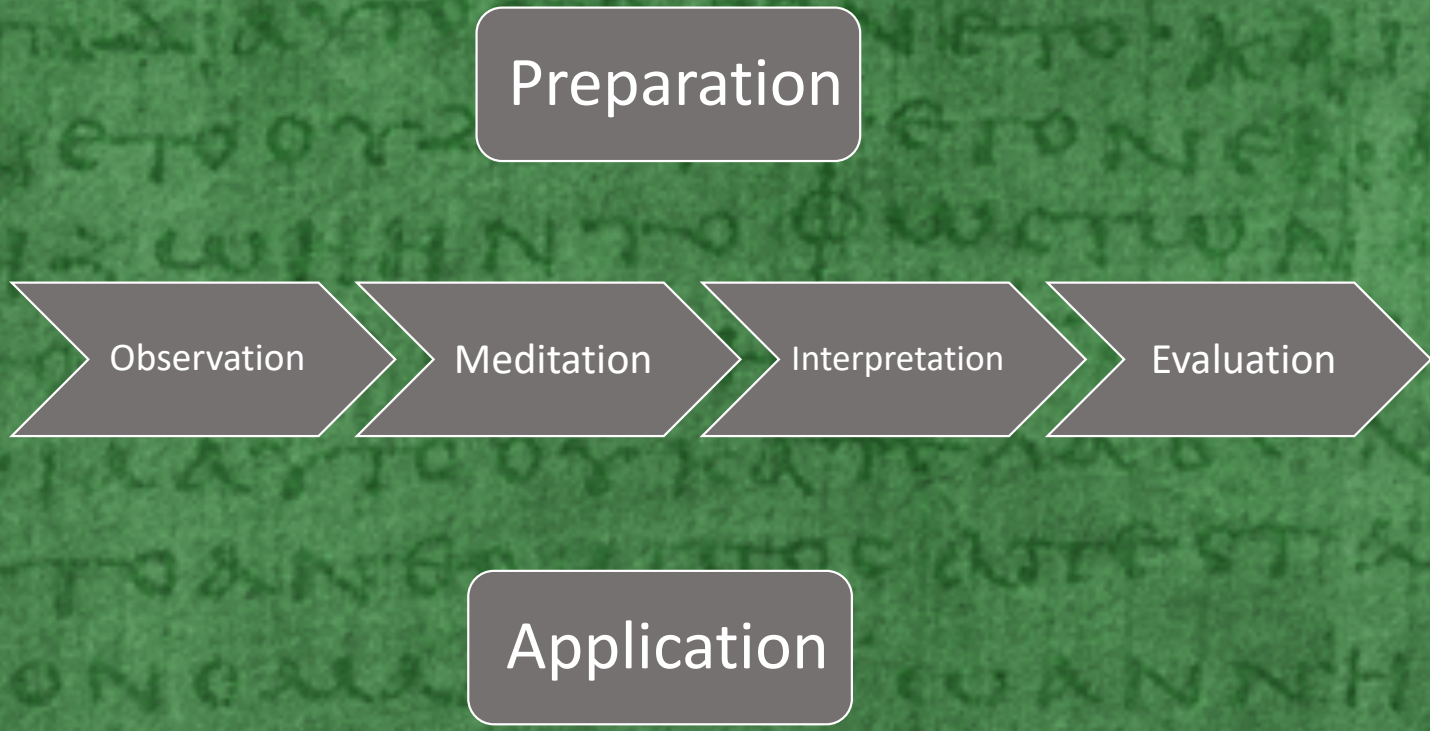
Clarification on some theological terms

1. Inerrant – “Without errors”
2. Infallible – “Incapable / unable to make any errors”
3. Sufficient: “Everything necessary to nurture and sustain our spiritual life”

Clarification on some theological terms

1. Inerrant:
2. Infallible:
3. Sufficient:
4. Interpretation:
    1. Literal: Scripture should be understood in its literal, natural, and normal sense.
    2. Grammatical: Understanding the basic grammatical structure.
    3. Historical: What the author intended and what the text meant to its first audience must be taken into account.
    4. Synthetic: Scripture must be compared with Scripture to discover its accurate and full meaning.
    5. Clarity: Clearer portions should be employed to interpret the less clear

How to Study the Bible



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